



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
*News Release***



7073 RADIO ROAD
FORT POLK LA 71459-5342
Voice: (318) 531-1418
Fax: (318) 531-2403

Release Number: 070203

July 1, 2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Maj. Ron Elliott

337-531-1418

Dental Activity to change command

Fort Polk, La. --- Col. Thomas MacKenzie will assume command of the U.S. Army Dental Activity during a ceremony Wednesday, July 2, 2003 at 9 a.m. on Warrior Field, here.

Col. MacKenzie will succeed Col. Dennis L. Slopey who has been in command of the Dental Activity since June 2001.

MacKenzie's last assignment was the program director for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, WA.

MacKenzie began his military career at Fort Polk by attending basic training here in 1968.

Other assignments for MacKenzie include Fort Wolters, Texas; Long Bien, South Vietnam; Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Yongsan, South Korea; Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

MacKenzie's education includes a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Texas. He received his DDS degree from Baylor College of Dentistry, Dallas, Texas.

The incoming commander is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and a Fellow of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Col. Slopey will move to Carlisle Barracks, Penn., where he will serve as commander of the U.S. Army Dental Clinic Command.

###

MEDIA ADVISORY:

Media representatives are welcome to attend and cover this event. Please call Major Ron Elliott at 531-1418 or Karla Gonzalez at 531-6134 to coordinate access on to Fort Polk.